



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**JACK O'CONNELL, State Superintendent of Public Instruction**  
1430 N Street, Suite 5602  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 319-0800



**THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**CHARLES B. REED, Chancellor**  
401 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 951-4000

June 30, 2004

Dear County, Unified District, and High School Superintendents, District School Boards,  
and High School Principals:

This letter is to provide additional information about new and emerging instructional resources to assist students who have participated in the eleventh grade Early Assessment Program (EAP) in mathematics. Additional information will be released soon about similar resources for English Language Arts.

In previous communications, we have announced the statewide availability of the EAP, which is a collaboration of the State Board of Education, the California Department of Education (CDE) and the California State University (CSU). The EAP enables juniors to be assessed regarding their readiness to do college level work in mathematics and/or English Language Arts. This program is a wonderful opportunity for schools to work with their students to assure that they will be ready for college level work by completion of their senior year in high school.

Students who complete the EAP in mathematics will be identified as exempt, conditionally exempt, or non-exempt from taking CSU's Entry Level Mathematics Exam (ELM). Following are the definitions of these scores:

### **Exempt**

Student demonstrates proficiency, i.e., student knowledge and skills meet CSU standards for placement into baccalaureate-level entry courses. Students who receive this score are exempt from the requirement to take CSU's placement test(s) if they apply and are admitted to CSU. In addition, although recommended, additional high school mathematics coursework is not required.

### **Conditionally Exempt (math only)**

If the student enrolled at a CSU campus immediately after completing the EAP in mathematics, the student would be prepared for a basic, freshman-level mathematics course. However, proficiency in mathematics decreases quickly when those skills and knowledge are not used. As a result, these students will be encouraged to keep their proficiency in mathematics at the college level by participating in an approved senior-

year experience (e.g., enrolling in and passing a mathematics class with an Algebra II prerequisite during the senior year, completing on-line math tutorials, or participating in a targeted CSU campus program in the summer prior to matriculation at a CSU campus). Students who successfully participate in an approved senior-year experience are exempt from the requirement to take CSU's mathematics placement test if they apply and are admitted to CSU and will be eligible to enroll in basic, non-remedial freshman-level mathematics courses.

### **Non-Exempt**

At the time the student took the EAP in English or mathematics, the student's responses did not demonstrate that the student had yet acquired the level of knowledge and skills required to enroll in a college-level course. As a result, these students will be encouraged to focus on improving their English or mathematics skills during their senior year of high school by participation in approved senior-year experiences or courses designed to strengthen English and mathematics skills. These students will be required to take CSU's placement tests upon admission to CSU.

The following are approved senior-year experiences for students who receive conditionally exempt status in mathematics:

- Taking and successfully completing with a grade of C or better Algebra II for a second time with the approval of the high school
- Successfully completing with a grade of C or better a math course that requires Algebra II as a prerequisite
- Successfully completing with a grade of C or better a statistics course that has Algebra II as a prerequisite and is on the A-G list of approved courses
- Successfully completing with a grade of C or better a physics or chemistry course that has Algebra II as a prerequisite and is on the A-G list of approved courses
- Successfully completing with a grade of C or better a math course developed by the high school with the approval of the CSU Mathematics Faculty Validation Committee (e.g., courses such as modeling or finite mathematics)
- Successfully completing a monitored, interactive, or multimedia individualized program (e.g., ALEKS, PLATO, Academic Systems) with approval of the CSU Mathematics Faculty Validation Committee
- Successfully completing with a grade of C or better a community college mathematics course that satisfies CSU's General Education Breadth or IGETC requirement in Quantitative Reasoning

Further information about approved web-based programs may be addressed to the CSU EAP Director at your nearest CSU campus.

June 30, 2004  
Page 3

Please note that if the student is not exempt on the basis of the EAP, ACT, SAT or Advanced Placement (AP) scores, the student will have to take and pass the ELM. If the student does not pass the ELM, he/she will be required to take remedial courses at the CSU or a community college. Additional details, including frequently asked questions, can be found at: <http://www.calstate.edu/ar/EAP.shtml>.

The CSU and CDE are working to develop additional resources and professional development opportunities. We will be announcing additional information in the next few months. We are also working with a select number of schools funded under the Academic Achievement and Improvement Act (AAIA) to create demonstration models that we can disseminate in the future. This extraordinary partnership is part of our mutual commitment to improve high schools and postsecondary opportunities for all students.

If additional information would be helpful, please call Ron Fox, Administrator, Intersegmental Relations, at (916) 323-6134, or Joy Salvetti Wolfe, Education Consultant, Intersegmental Relations, at (916) 323-5635.

Sincerely,

Signature on File

JACK O'CONNELL  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Signature on File

CHARLES B. REED, Chancellor  
The California State University

JO/CR:rf